Flights from Hyderabad to Delhi

4110. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to increase the number of flights from Hyderabad to Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that the IC flights of this sector are not accommodating the passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) At present Indian Airlines operates 14 flights in a week and Jet Airways 7 flights in a week on Delhi-Hyderabad-Delhi route.

Airlines are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Indian Airlines is offering a total of about 410 seats daily both ways in each direction on the said route and the average seat factor during the last 6 months has been around 74%. As such, the current capacity offered by IA is considered sufficient to meet the existing passenger demand and therefore, IA has, at present, no plans to increase the number of flight from Hyderabad to Delhi.

Permission to International Airlines to fly from Bangalore

4111. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the international airlines which have approached Government for permission to fly from Bangalore;

(b) what is the estimated number of international passengers to fly from Bangalore Airport; and

(c) what is the percentage of such passengers in comparison to Cochin and Hyderabad Airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The traffic rights have already been granted for operations to Bangalore to Royal Nepal Airlines, Gulf Air, Malaysia Airlines, Cathay Pacific and Lufthansa Airlines. The Government of Singapore, United Kingdom and Sri Lanka have also approached the Government of India seeking access to Bangalore for their designated carriers.

(b) The actual number of international passengers embarking from Bangalore airport during the year 1999-2000 was 81257.

(c) The percentage of embarking passengers for the year 1999-2000 at Bangalore, Cochin and Hyderabad out of all India aggregate was 1.3%, 1.8% and 1.8%, respectively.

Direct flights from Geneva to Hyderabad and London to Hyderabad

4112. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Ministry of Civil Aviation for introducing direct flight from Geneva to Hyderabad, London to Hyderabad, etc., in view of the traffic and the willingness expressed by the air carriers; and

(b) if so, by when such services are going to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Hyderabad is not available as a point of call to the designated airlines of United Kingdom and Switzerland. Such matters are discussed in bilateral air services talks. However recently, designated airlines of Malaysia and UAE (Dubai) have been granted access to Hyderabad.